Claims

Claims 1 – 13 (cancelled)

Claim 14. (new) A method for creating a consumer's shopping list prior to entering a store, comprising:

(a) a portable barcode scanner, comprising:

    (i) a processor;

    (ii) a memory that stores product information under the control of the processor;

    (iii) logic that obtains a product barcode;

    (iv) logic that obtains a product coupon barcode;

    (v) logic that indicates that said product barcode or said product coupon barcode has been scanned and stored in said memory;

    (vi) logic that indicates the number of said product barcodes and said product coupon barcodes stored in said memory;

    (vii) logic that indicates said memory is full;

    (viii) logic that creates a query based on said product barcode or said product coupon barcode;

    (ix) logic that transmits said product barcode or said product coupon barcode to one or more first computers over a first network infrastructure;

(x) logic that indicates that said product barcode or said product coupon barcode has been transmitted to one or more first computers over said first network infrastructure;

(xi) logic that receives said product barcode or said product coupon barcode associated information from one or more first computers over said first network infrastructure;

(xii) logic that displays said product barcode or said product coupon barcode associated information on a display, received from one or more first computers over said first network infrastructure;

(xiii) wherein said product barcode associated information relates to at least one of product description, product cost, date and time on which said product barcode was scanned, and a required quantity of said product; and

(xiv) wherein said product coupon barcode associated information relates to at least one of product description, product cost, date and time on which said product coupon barcode was scanned, and a required quantity of said product;

(b) one or more first computers, each first computer comprising;

(i) an associated communications interface channel to receive data from, and to transmit data to, said portable barcode scanner over said first network infrastructure;

(ii) logic that stores said data as shopping list information under the control of said product barcode or said product coupon barcode, in a memory means;

(iii) logic that communicates with a second computer system, over a second network infrastructure to request and receive said product information based on said product barcode or said product coupon barcode;

(iv) logic that keeps track of the frequency that said product barcode or said product coupon barcode has been received from said barcode scanner over said first network infrastructure;

(vi) logic that provides notification of repetitively entered product barcodes or said product coupon barcodes;

(vii) logic that displays a multiplicity of product barcodes or said product coupon barcodes, together with said product information, on a first computer display; and

(viii) logic that indicates that said consumer has obtained said shopping list information in-hand;

(c) scanning a needed product barcode or a needed product coupon barcode using said portable barcode scanner;

(d) transferring said scanned product barcode or said product coupon barcode to said first computer, over said first network infrastructure;

(e) storing said transferred product barcode or said product coupon barcode in a shopping list database on said first computer, said shopping list database includes other product information, wherein said other product information includes: a product description, a product cost, a date and time on which said product barcode was scanned and an indicator for a required quantity of said product;

(f) obtaining in-hand said stored shopping list from said first computer in order to go to a first store and purchase products listed on said shopping list, said obtaining in-hand is selected from the group comprising:

      (i)   printing said stored shopping list on a printing device,

      (ii)   transferring said stored shopping list to a portable computer device, and

      (iii)   using said portable barcode scanner; and

(g) sending said shopping list to an optional second store connected to said second network infrastructure, said second store shipping products listed on said shopping list to said consumer.

Claim 15. (new) The portable barcode scanner of claim **14**, wherein said first network infrastructure is a wireless link.

Claim 16. (new) The portable barcode scanner of claim **15**, wherein said wireless link is selected from the group comprising: an infrared link and a Bluetooth radio-frequency link.

Claim 17. (new) The portable barcode scanner of claim **14**, wherein said first network infrastructure is a wired link between said portable barcode scanner and said first computer.

Claim 18. (new) The portable barcode scanner of claim **17**, wherein said wired link is selected from the group comprising: an RS-232 link, USB link, a parallel link and an IEEE 1394 link.

Claim 19. (new) The first computer of claim **14** is selected from the group comprising: a personal computer, a personal digital assistant, an internet appliance, and a cell phone.

Claim 20. (**new**) The first computer of claim **14**, wherein said second network infrastructure is the internet.

Claim 21. (**new**) A method for creating a consumer's shopping list prior to entering a store, comprising:

(a) a printed product catalog comprising:

> (i) a multiplicity of printed product information, each product information associated with a product barcode or a product coupon barcode, said product information relates to at least one of product description, product merchant name, product merchant contact information, product cost, and date on which said product is offered;

(b) a portable barcode scanner, comprising:

> (i) a processor;

> (ii) a memory that stores product information under the control of the processor;

> (iii) logic that obtains a product barcode;

> (iv) logic that obtains a product coupon barcode;

> (v) logic that indicates that said product barcode or said product coupon barcode has been scanned and stored in said memory;

> (vi) logic that indicates the number of said product barcodes and said product coupon barcodes stored in said memory;

(vii) logic that indicates said memory is full;

(viii) logic that creates a query based on said product barcode or said product coupon barcode;

(ix) logic that transmits said product barcode or said product coupon barcode to one or more first computers over a first network infrastructure;

(x) logic that indicates that said product barcode or said product coupon barcode has been transmitted to one or more first computers over said first network infrastructure;

(xi) logic that receives said product barcode or said product coupon barcode associated information from one or more first computers over said first network infrastructure;

(xii) logic that displays said product barcode or said product coupon barcode associated information on a display, received from one or more first computers over said first network infrastructure;

(xiii) wherein said product barcode associated information relates to at least one of product description, product cost, date and time on which said product barcode was scanned, and a required quantity of said product; and

(xiv) wherein said product coupon barcode associated information relates to at least one of product description, product cost, date and time on which said product coupon barcode was scanned, and a required quantity of said product;

(c) one or more first computers, each first computer comprising;

(i) an associated communications interface channel to receive data from, and to transmit data to, said portable barcode scanner over said first network infrastructure;

(ii) logic that stores said data as shopping list information under the control of said product barcode or said product coupon barcode, in a memory means;

(iii) logic that communicates with a second computer system, over a second network infrastructure to request and receive said product information based on said product barcode or said product coupon barcode;

(iv) logic that keeps track of the frequency that said product barcode or said product coupon barcode has been received from said barcode scanner over said first network infrastructure;

(vi) logic that provides notification of repetitively entered product barcodes or said product coupon barcodes;

(vii) logic that displays a multiplicity of product barcodes or said product coupon barcodes, together with said product information, on a first computer display; and

(viii) logic that indicates that said consumer has obtained said shopping list information in-hand;

(d) scanning a needed product barcode or a needed product coupon barcode using said portable barcode scanner;

(e) transferring said scanned product barcode or said product coupon barcode to said first computer, over said first network infrastructure;

(f) storing said transferred product barcode or said product coupon barcode in a shopping list database on said first computer, said shopping list database includes other product information, wherein said other product information includes: a product description, a product cost, a date and time on which said product barcode was scanned and an indicator for a required quantity of said product;

(g) obtaining in-hand said stored shopping list from said first computer in order to go to a first store and purchase products listed on said shopping list, said obtaining in-hand is selected from the group comprising:

      (i)   printing said stored shopping list on a printing device,

      (ii)   transferring said stored shopping list to a portable computer device, and

      (iii)   using said portable barcode scanner; and

(h) sending said shopping list to an optional second store connected to said second network infrastructure, said second store shipping products listed on said shopping list to said consumer.

Claim 22. (new) The portable barcode scanner of claim **21**, wherein said first network infrastructure is a wireless link.

Claim 23. (new) The portable barcode scanner of claim **22**, wherein said wireless link is selected from the group comprising: an infrared link and a Bluetooth radio-frequency link.

Claim 24. (new) The portable barcode scanner of claim **21**, wherein said first network infrastructure is a wired link between said portable barcode scanner and said first computer.

Claim 25. (new) The portable barcode scanner of claim **24**, wherein said wired link is

selected from the group comprising: an RS-232 link, USB link, a parallel link and an IEEE 1394 link.

Claim 26. (new) The first computer of claim **21** is selected from the group comprising: a personal computer, a personal digital assistant, an internet appliance, and a cell phone.

Claim 27. (new) The first computer of claim **21**, wherein said second network infrastructure is the internet.

Claim 28. (new) A method for creating a consumer's shopping list prior to entering a store, comprising:

(a) a printed product advertisement comprising:

(i) a multiplicity of printed product information, each product information associated with a product barcode or a product coupon barcode, said product information relates to at least one of product description, product merchant name, product merchant contact information, product cost, and date on which said product is offered;

(b) a portable barcode scanner, comprising:

(i) a processor;

(ii) a memory that stores product information under the control of the processor;

(iii) logic that obtains a product barcode;

(iv) logic that obtains a product coupon barcode;

(v) logic that indicates that said product barcode or said product coupon barcode has been scanned and stored in said memory;

(vi) logic that indicates the number of said product barcodes and said product coupon barcodes stored in said memory;

(vii) logic that indicates said memory is full;

(viii) logic that creates a query based on said product barcode or said product coupon barcode;

(ix) logic that transmits said product barcode or said product coupon barcode to one or more first computers over a first network infrastructure;

(x) logic that indicates that said product barcode or said product coupon barcode has been transmitted to one or more first computers over said first network infrastructure;

(xi) logic that receives said product barcode or said product coupon barcode associated information from one or more first computers over said first network infrastructure;

(xii) logic that displays said product barcode or said product coupon barcode associated information on a display, received from one or more first computers over said first network infrastructure;

(xiii) wherein said product barcode associated information relates to at least one of product description, product cost, date and time on which said product barcode was scanned, and a required quantity of said product; and

(xiv) wherein said product coupon barcode associated information relates to at least one of product description, product cost, date and time on which said product coupon barcode was scanned, and a required quantity of said product;

(c) one or more first computers, each first computer comprising;

(i) an associated communications interface channel to receive data from, and to transmit data to, said portable barcode scanner over said first network infrastructure;

(ii) logic that stores said data as shopping list information under the control of said product barcode or said product coupon barcode, in a memory means;

(iii) logic that communicates with a second computer system, over a second network infrastructure to request and receive said product information based on said product barcode or said product coupon barcode;

(iv) logic that keeps track of the frequency that said product barcode or said product coupon barcode has been received from said barcode scanner over said first network infrastructure;

(vi) logic that provides notification of repetitively entered product barcodes or said product coupon barcodes;

(vii) logic that displays a multiplicity of product barcodes or said product coupon barcodes, together with said product information, on a first computer display; and

(viii) logic that indicates that said consumer has obtained said shopping list information in-hand;

(d) scanning a needed product barcode or a needed product coupon barcode using said portable barcode scanner;

(e) transferring said scanned product barcode or said product coupon barcode to said first computer, over said first network infrastructure;

(f) storing said transferred product barcode or said product coupon barcode in a shopping list database on said first computer, said shopping list database includes other product information, wherein said other product information includes: a product description, a product cost, a date and time on which said product barcode was scanned and an indicator for a required quantity of said product; and

(g) obtaining in-hand said stored shopping list from said first computer in order to go to a first store and purchase products listed on said shopping list, said obtaining in-hand is selected from the group comprising:

      (i)   printing said stored shopping list on a printing device,
      (ii)   transferring said stored shopping list to a portable computer device, and
      (i)   using said portable barcode scanner.

(h) sending said shopping list to an optional second store connected to said second network infrastructure, said second store shipping products listed on said shopping list to said consumer.

Claim 29. (new) The portable barcode scanner of claim **28**, wherein said first network infrastructure is a wireless link.

Claim 30. (new) The portable barcode scanner of claim **29**, wherein said wireless link is selected from the group comprising: an infrared link and a Bluetooth radio-frequency link.

Claim 31. **(new)** The portable barcode scanner of claim **28**, wherein said first network infrastructure is a wired link between said portable barcode scanner and said first computer.

Claim 32. **(new)** The portable barcode scanner of claim **31**, wherein said wired link is selected from the group comprising: an RS-232 link, USB link, a parallel link and an IEEE 1394 link.

Claim 33. **(new)** The first computer of claim **28** is selected from the group comprising: a personal computer, a personal digital assistant, an internet appliance, and a cell phone.